

4
A DISCOVRSE OF
THE MISERABLE CAPT I-
tutie of an Englishman, named Richard Hasle-
ton, borne in Brainerree in Essex, declaring also
his cruell torments during ten yeares space, and
his vvonderfull deliuerance: being a very strange
thing to such as shall reade the same, he being
nowv by Gods prouidence safelie arriued
in his ovvne countrie, no doubt to
his great comfort.

PENNED AS HE DELIVE-
red it from his ovvne mouth.



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1595.

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TO THE VVORSHIPFULL

Maister Richard Stapar, one of the vvorship-
full companie of the Marchants aduenturers of this ho-
nourable cite of London, trading to Turkie and the
Easterne kingdomes, Your vvorships faithfull welwiler

W. Barley, wisheth all fortunate and happie

successe in all your enterprises, with en-

crease of all worldly vvorship: and

after death the ioyes

vnspcakeable.



Orshipfull sir, the manie reportes of
your rare vertues, generally spoken
of all honest trauailers, who hath ta-
sted the benefit of your bountie, not
onely in our home borne countrey
where you haue your residence, but in
those farre countries where your ho-

nest factors trade; by whose vvorshipfull and expresse
commaund giuen them, and the good they dayly do for
all men which seeke them: your vvorship is accounted
and called the Patterne of bountie, especially of such as
are in their trauaile distressed with want, which with mo-
ney are releued, as well as other great coll their fauour
or friendship can procure, so that not onely the poore
and needy are pleased thereby, but those that swim
in most aboundance, all proceeding of your most kinde
and courteous disposition.

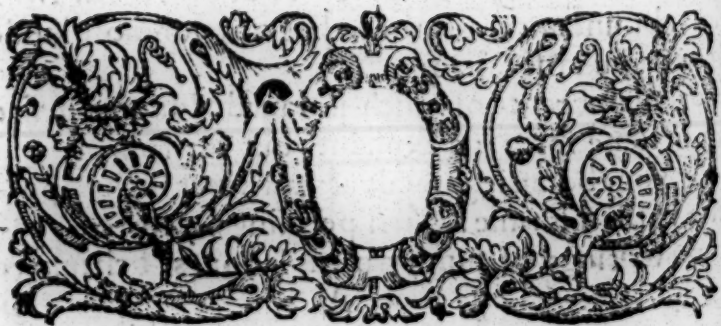
The remembrance of which, mooued a longing desire
in me, in some sorte, to explaine your worthinesse and
same by your bountie gained, it had neuer such oppor-
tunitie vntill this time: when perusing my store of pa-
pers and writings, of sundry mens labours, I chaunced

The Epistle Dedicatory.

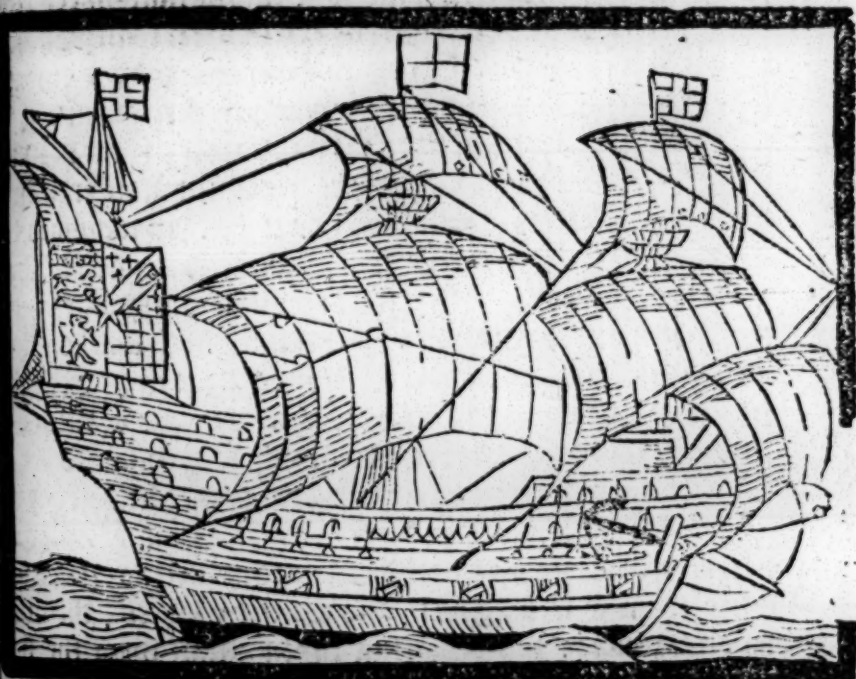
on this Pamphlet, which importeth the troublesome
trauailles of our neere neighbour borne at *Brainetree* in
Essex, named *Richard Hasleton*, whose miseries as they
were many, being in the hands both of Christians and
Heathen enemies, for God and our countries cause, and
his escapes from death so often and so wonderfull, with
the constant enduring of the same: his preservation, and
safe returne to England, where his longing desire so of-
ten wished him: all which considered, with your wor-
ships loue to all Trauailers, imboldned me the rather
vnder your worships patronage to publish the same,
especiall zeale procuring me therevnto: and partly in
regarde of your many fauoures to the said *Hasleton* in
his miseries extended, that your worships good exam-
ple may lighten others to such good actions, hoping
your worship will except of it no lesse friendly, then
offer it willingly, which if you do, then is my desire satis-
fied, and my selfe rest bounden to your worships wor-
thinnesse: euer beseeching the giuer of all good to en-
crease the number of such worthy minded subiects,
by whom our Prince and countrie, are in for-
raine parts so much honoured.

Your vvorships daily orator,

William Barley.



The miserable captiuitie of Richard Hasleton,
borne at Brainetree in Essex.



In the yeare 1582. departing the
English coast toward the ende of
May, in a ship of London, called the
Mary Marten, one of the owners
was a citizen of London, called M.
Eastwoode, the other of them na-
med Maister Estridge dwelling at
Lime-house, being laden and bound
for Petrach. A Towne of marte,

being within the dominion of the Turke, where we safely
arriued and made our marte, and within eight and twentie
daies were lading homeward, and presently we waied an-
ker, and set saile, and comming out of the gulfe of Lepontoe,
grounded vpon a rocke, lying on the larboarde side, being
in very great daunger, in doubt to lose both ship and goods,
yet it pleased God that we recouered. Then about the
middest of the moneth of Iuly, we came right befoze Cape
de gatte, when hauing a very small winde, we discried two
Gallies

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

Gallies, whereupon the maister commaunded the gunner to put forth the ordinaunce, and to heaue the skiffe ouer board, then did the gunner demaund of the maister to make a shot, which he graunted. Then did he bestow eight and twentie shot, but to no purpose, for the enemy lay very far out.

Now when we saue our shot and powder spent so much in wast, some of our company cryed to our maister to shew the Turkes letters, but he would not, but commaunded the gunner still to shot, for now the Gallies were within shot, and did shote at vs, both with great shot and Muskets, and presently both our gunners were slaine, both with on shot, and some other mainied, whereby we were in great doubt, for the Gallies lying on both sides of vs, one of them had shot vs vnder water, whereby our ship was foundred before we perceiued: then we perceiuing the ship to sinke from vs, such as were weriest leapt into the skiffe, as many as it was able to beare, the rest leaping ouer board, such as could swim saved them selues, going aboard the Gallies, the other were drowned. Now I being the last man vpon the hatches, because I was at the sterne and being sore hurte with a Muscot shot, the Turkes made hast to board our ship, hoping to saue some of our goods, two of them came aboard, the first came to me and tooke me by the bolome, I drew out my knife very speedily and thrust him into the body, and so slew him, the other was gone downe into the ship where I left him, for euen then was the ship sincking from me, wherefore I betooke my selfe to swimming, and turning me about to see the ship, I could see nothing thereof but onely the flag: then did I swim to the Gallies, and laying holde vpon an oare got into the Gallie: when I was aboard: I stripped of my clothes, then presently was I commaunded to the Hopes to talke with the Captaine, who inquired of me whether I were a Marchant, which because I would not confesse, he gaue me xij. strokes with a cudgell, and then put me in the Gallies holde, where I was five dayes, taking very little sustenance, lying in extream paines, by reason of my hurt, which I haue receiued in the fight, and with anguish of minde for my hurt happe.

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

About threë monthes after the Gallies returned to Argire, where immediatly after my landing I was solde for 66. doubles. Then did I fall into extreame sicknesse for ten dayes space, notwithstanding I was sent to sea by my maister (to whom I was sold) to labour in the Gallies at an Oares end, where I remained threë moneths, being very feeble and weake, by reason my sickness continued the most part of that time, yet was I constrained either to labour or else to lose my head, I had no other choice: then the Gallies returning home to Argire, after my coming on shore I was in a maruailous weaknesse, what with continuall labour, with beating, and with sicknesse, which indured threë monthes, being in a most miserable estate without all sucker, seeing no man to pittie my miserie, hauing no nourishment but onely bread and water, and that but small quantity: no apparrell on me but a thin shirt, and a paire of linnen breeches, and lodged in a stable on the colde ground. Thus I being almost in dispaire euer to recover, yelded my selfe to the will of Almighty God, whom it pleased in the end to giue me a little strength. And after for the space of two years or more, I was diuers times at my labour at the oares end, after my accustomed manner, till such time our flete of Gallies meeting with the Gallies of Genua neere the Christian shore, and they following vs in chase, it chanced by reason of tempest, that our Galley was cast away neere vnto the weast side of the Island Fernonterra: there were in it of Christians and Turkes to the number of two hundred and fiftie, which were all drowned, except fiftene, of which my selfe with two others, with great difficultie brake our chaines, and taking holde vpon an Oare, we escaped to the shore, not without great danger of drowning. We being now gotten to land, and accompanied both with Turkes and Christians, we tooke our rest vnder bushes and thickets, the Turkes were very unwilling to depart with vs, thinking to finde some other Galley of the company to take vs aboard and carie vs back to Argire, but we hoping now to get our liberties, conueyed our selues as secretly as we could into the woods, and went vnto a rock and with sharpe stones we did beat off our Irons, and fled immediatly to the Christians, and yelded our selues: but one of them which escaped with me who was borne in Sclauony, tolde them that I was an English Lutheran.

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

Then was I presently caried aboard a Gallie of Genua, and put in chaines, and vpon the morrow was I sent ouer into the Isle of Iulsey, being within the iurisdiction of Maiorque, which all are in the dominion of Spaine) there was I imprisoned in the high Tower of the towne Castell, with a paire of bolts vpon my heeles, & a claspe of Iron about my necke, there hanging a chaine at the claspe, where I remained nine dayes, fed with a little bread and water. Now because I had in no respect offended them, I demanded wherefore they molested me, laying it was contrary to law and the profession of Christians. Then did they aske me if I had spoken any thing against the king, and against the Church of Rome? I answered nothing. Then they tolde me I should be sent to Maiorque, to answer before the Inquisition. Then the Iustice or chiefe officer of Iulsey brought me backe to Genua, requesting to haue me chained in a Galley, which the Captaine did, asking the Iustice who should be my surety for running away? He demanded if there were not a spare chaine: he said yes: then he commaunded a chaine to be brought forth, and chained me at the first Dare before, where I rowed untill we came to the Parte of Spine in Maiorque, guarding me with rify Gallies.

Then were the officers of the Inquisition, sent for by the Captaine, which came the second day after our comming there: and at their comming they offered me the Bar, which I refused to touch: wherevpon they reuiled me, and called me Luckeran, taking me presently out of the Galley, carried me on shore in Maiorque, and finding the Inquisitor walking in the Packet place, presented me to him, saying: Here is the prisoner. He immediately commaunded me to prison, whether they carried me, and put a paire of shackles on my heeles, where I remained two daies. Then was I brought forth into a Church, where the Inquisitor sate usually in iudgement: who being ready set, commaunded me to kneele downe and to do homage to certaine images which were before me, I tolde him I would not do that which I knew to be contrary to the commandments of Almighty God, neither had I bene brought by in the Romaine law: neither would I submit my selfe to it. He asked me why I would not: I answered, that whereas in England, where I was borne and brought by, the Gospell was trulie preached, and mainteined by a most gracious Princes, therefore

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

I would not now commit Idolatrie, which is utterly condemned by the word of God. Then he charged me to vtter the truth, otherwise I should abide the smart: Then was a stole set, and he commanded me to sit downe before him, and offered me the crosse, bidding me reuerently to lay my hand vpon it, and vrged me instantlie to do it, which moued me so much, that I did spit in the Inquisitors face, for which the Scribe gaue me a good buffet on the face.



So for that time we had no more reasoning, for the Inquisitor did ring a little Bell, to call vp the keeper, and caried me to warde
X ij againe:

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

again, and the third day I was brought forth againe to the place aforesaid.

Then the Inquisitor asked me what I had seene in the Churches of England, I answered that I had seene nothing in the Church of England, but the word of God truly preached: then he demaunded how I had receiued the Sacraments: I rep'ied that I had receiued them according to the institution of Christ, that is, I receiued the bread in remembrance that Christ in the flesh died vpon the crosse for the redemption of man. How (said he) hast thou receiued the Wine? whereto I replied and said, that I receiued the wine, in remembrance that Christ shed his blood to wash away our sinnes. He said it was in their manner, I said no: then he charged me to speake the truth, or I should die for it. I told him I did speake the truth, and wou'd speake the truth: for (said I) it is better for me to die guiltlesse then guiltie. Then did he with great vehemency charge me againe to speake the truth, and sware by the Catholick Church of Rome, that if I did not, I should dye in fier, then I said, if I died in the faith, which I had confessed I should die guiltlesse, and tolde him he had made a vaine othe. And so I willed him to vse no circumstance to diswade me from the truth, for you cannot preuaile though I be now in your hands, where you haue power ouer my body, yet haue you no power ouer my soule. I told him he made a long matter farre from the truth, for which he said I should die. Then he bad me say what I could to saue my selfe: where I replied as follo weth Touching the manner of the receiuing of Sacraments, where he said it was like to theirs: you (said I) when you receiue the bread, say it is the very body of Christ, and likewise you affirme the wine to be his very blood, which I denied: saying that it was vnpossible for a mortall man to eate the materall body of Christ, or to drinke his blood.

Then he said I had blasphemed the Catholick Church, I answered that I had said nothing against the true Catholick church, but altogether against the false church: he asked how I could proue it, saying, if I could not proue it, I should die a most cruell death.

Note by the way, that when any man is in darance for religion, he is called to answer before no open assembly, but onely in the

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

the presence of the Inquisitor, the Secretarie, and the Solicitor; whom they terme the Broker: the cause is as I take it, because they doubt that very many of their owne people would confesse the Gospel, if they did but see and vnderstand their absurd dealing. Againe to the matter, because it was so secret, they begged me to speake the more: then he inquired whether I had euer bin confest, I said yes: he demaunded to whom? I said to God: he asked me if I had euer confessed to any frier: I said no, for I do vtterly desie them: for how can he forgiue me my sinnes, which is himselfe a sinner as all other men are.



Yes sayd he, he which confesseth himselfe to a frier, who is a Father, may haue remission of his sinnes by his mediation, which I said I would neuer heldeue. Wherefore seeing they could seduce me by no meanes, to yeld to their abhominable idolatrie,

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleron.

the Secretary cried, Away with him: the Inquisitor and he stood
 not very angely on me for the answers which I had giuen, and
 said they would make me tell an other tale. So at the ringing of
 a little Bell the Keeper came and caried me to warte againe. At
 my first Examination, when the Keeper should lead me away, the
 Inquisitor did blisse me with the Crosse, but neuer after. Two
 dayes after was I brought and set againe vpon a stole before the
 Inquisitor, he bat me at the *misericordiam*, I tolde him I would
 craue mercie of Iesus Christ, who did for my finnes, other *mise-*
ricordiam I would craue none. Then he commanded me to kneele
 before the Altar, I said I would, but not to pray to any image,
 for yett Altar is adozned with many painted images (which were
 fashioned by the hands of sinfull men,) which haue mouthes and
 speake not, eares and heare not, noses and smell not, hands and
 handle not, feete haue they and walke not, &c, which God doth not
 allow at his Altar, for he hath utterly condemned them by his
 word. Then he said I had bene wzong taught, for said he, whose-
 euer shall se these figures in earth, may the better remember him
 in heauen, whose likenesse it doth represent, who would be a medi-
 ator to God for vs: but I replied that all images were an abhomi-
 nation to the Lord, for he hath condemned them in expresse wordes
 by his owne mouth, saying: Thou shalt not make thy selfe any
 grauen image, &c. He said he, but we haue neede of a Mediator
 to make intercession for vs, for we are vnworthy to pray to
 God our selues, because we are vile sinners. I sayde there was
 no mediator but Iesus Christ: where after many absurd reasons
 and vaine persuasions, he toke a pause.

Then I asked him why he kept me so long in prison, which ne-
 uer committed offence to them, knowing very well that I had
 bene Captaine in Argire nere fife yeares space: saying, That
 when God by his mercifull prouidence, had thozow many great
 dangers, set me in a Christian countrie, and deliuered me from the
 cruelty of the Turkes, when I thought to finde such fauour as
 one Christian oweth to another, I found them now more cruell
 then the Turkes, not knowing any cause why. The cause (said
 he) is, because the King hath warres with the Quene of Eng-
 land (for at that instant there was their Armie prepared ready to
 go for England:) wherebpon they would diuers times giue me
 reprie

The captiuitie of Richard Hatheron.

reprochfull words, saying that I should heere shortly of their arrival in England, with innumerable vaine bragges, which I can not for breuiflie.

Then did I demaunde if there were not peace betwene the king and the Quenes Maiestie: whether they would keepe me still: yea said he, vntlesse thou wilt submit thy selfe to the faith of the Romish Church: so he commaunded me away, I asked, wherefore he sent for me, and to send me away, not alledging any matter against me: he said I should haue no other matter alledged, but that which I had spoken with mine owne mouth. Then I demaunded why they would haue the Romish Church to haue the supremacy: whereto he would make no answer. Then I asked if they took me to be a Christian: yea said he, in some respect, but you are out of the faith of the true Church. Then the keeper took me to prison againe: and after for the space of three weekes, I was brought forth to answer, three seuerall times euery weeke: at which times they did sometime threaten me with death, some while with punishment, and many times they attempted to seduce me with faire words, and promises of great preferment, but when they sawe nothing would drawe me from the truth, they called me shamelesse Lutheran, saying many times: see, he is of the verie blood of Luther, he hath his very countenance: with many other frinolous speeches.

After all this, he commaunded to put me in the dungeon within the Castell, fīue fathem vnder ground, giuing me once a day a little bread and water, which they let downe in a basket with a rope, there remained I ene whole yeare, lying on the bare ground seeing neither Sunne nor Moone, no not hearing man woman or child speake, but onely the keeper which brought my small victuall. It happened about the yeares end, vpon the feast of Philip and Iacob, being the first day of Maye, that a prettie boye being the keepers sonne, came to giue me my ordinarie feede, which he vsed sometime to do. Now when he opened the doore, and had let downe the basket, I asked who was there: he answered by his name, saying here is Matthew. I asked him where his father was: he is gone to Massie, said he: so he let downe the trap doore and went his way, leauing the roape with the basket hanging still. And forasmuch as I lay without all comfort, repeating my selfe

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Helpe onely vnto Gods prouidence, yet vnwilling to lose any oportunitie that lay in me (if God were pleased) whereby I might be deliuered.

So sone as I heard the boye was gone, I jumped vp and take holde vpon the reape, and wound my selfe vp to the dooze, setting my foote against the wall. and with my shoulders did I lift vp the trap dooze. Now when I was aloft, and saw no man, so they were gone to see some ceremonies of their idolatrous exercises in the citie. I knew no way to escape away, being now in the middle of the way: wherefore it was vnpossible to conuey my selfe secretly but I should be espyed.

Wherefore for a present shift, I went secretly into a voide roome of the Castell, where lay great store of Lime and earth. Where I tied an old cloth (which I had) about my head and face, to keepe the dust out of my eyes and eares, and so did I creepe into the lime, and couered my selfe so well as I could, lying there till toward midnight: and then hearing no man stirring, I get vp, and sought some way to get forth but could finde none. Then being greatly perplexed, I bent my selfe to the good pleasure of Almighty God, making my humble prayers, that he would of his mercie boughsate to deliuer me out of this miserable thraldome. And searching too and fro, in the end I came where three great horses stode tyed by the head and saite: then did I vnloose the halters from their heads, and the ropes from their legs, and went to the castell wall: when I had tied them end to end, I made it fast to the body of a Vine which grew vpon the wall, and by it did I strike my selfe ouer the wall into the towne ditch, where I was constrained to swim about fortye paces, before I could get forth of the ditch.

When walked I too and fro in the city aboue two houre, seeing no man, neither could I deuise any way forth: wherefore I returned backe againe to the towne ditch, to see if I could finde any way to bring me without the towne walles, and following the ditch, at the last I perceiued by the noyse of the water, that there was a water gate thorow the wa'l: where I searched and found that the issue of the water was vnder the wall, then did I very venterously enter the water, and diuing vnder water, came into the watergate, and sodainly the force of the water did

The captiuitie of Richard Hasketon.

me through with such violence, that it cast me headlong against another wall on the out side, which with the blow did much amaze me: yet by the helpe of God I reconered, swimming done the ditch, till I came where was a trough or pipe, which I toke to be laid ouer the ditch, to conuey some fresh water spring into the city: there did I climbe by a post which bare the same, and got vpon the top of the pipe, where some of the watch being nere the wall perceived me, but could not any way come nere to me. Then cried they in their tounge, who is there, thre or foure times, but I made no answer, but crept as fast as I could to get off the pipe to land: where before I could get done, they shot some of their Muskets after me, but thanked be God none of the shot did hit me. Thus with great difficultie I escaped out of the citie, and went about fifte miles from thence before the day brake.

Then I went into a thicke wood, for I perceived there was very many sent forth with hue and crie, both footemen and horsemen to apprehend me, therefore I lay still the day and night following:



The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

And after for seauen daies space I wandered thorow desert waies, among woods and bushes, many times as I came nere the porte wayes, I heard the pursuers inquiring after me, demanding of diuers whether they had seene me passe: some were very earnest to take me, other wishing that I might escape, for very many times I was so nere them, that I heard euery word they spake. Thus I imagined by all possible meanes to auoide the hands of these humerous tyrants, being in great extremity with hunger and colde: for since the time I came out of the prison, which was at the least eight dayes, I had none other sustenance but Berries which I gathered from the bushes, and the rootes of Palme, and other like rootes which I digged out of the earth, and no other apparel but an old linnen cloth about my body, and a red Cap on my head, without either hose, shoes, or any other furniture, so that by reason the way was very hard, I was forced to cut my cap in two, and lay it about my face, to defend them from the sharpe bones and grasse.

Thus traueiling for the most part by night, I chanced to come where was a house standing alone, and nere the house there stood a cart, wherein lay certaine horse collars, where searching among them, I found the collars lined with type skinnnes, which skins I rent all from the collars, and apparelled my selfe with them in this manner. I put one peece before me like a brest-plate, and an other on my shoulders and backe, with the wolfe side toward my body, tying them together ouer my shoulders & vnder my armes with Palmite, which is a weede like to that whereof our hand-baskets are made, which is well knowne to such as haue traueled those parts: and with an other peece I made me a cap. And in these seemely ornaments I passed forth, till about thre daies after, very early in a morning, most unhappily I crossed an high way, where a countryman traueiling with a Mollie laden with rundlets of wine, espyed me, and demanded of me whether I was bound, I said I was going to Coothea, which is a towne lying vpon the shore side, but he suspecting me to be the man which was pursued, bad me stay but I went onward, he ran after me, and threw stones at me, but I not able to ouer-runne him, being very feeble, turned backe, and with a pole which I caried began to defend my selfe, striking at him thre or foure times, at the last I thrust

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

thrust at him, and hit him on the brest, and ouerthrew him, whereupon he made a horrible crie: and immediatly there came to the number of fiftene more, some horsemen, some footmen: some having scowdes, some Harquebushes, and other Crossbowes: when I was thus beset, knowing no way to escape, I yielded my selfe. Then they bound me hands and feet, laid me on a Hople, and carried me backe againe to the citie of Maiorque, deliuering me to the Inquisitor, who when he had sent me to prison, commanded a paire of boltes to be put on my legges, and an Iron clasp about my neck, with a chaine of fise fathome long hanging thereat, which was done accordingly. And on the morrow I was brought forth to the accustomed place, and in the same maner, where the Inquisitor sitting, asked me first why I had been prison, and runne away. I said to saue my life: yea (said he) but now thou hast offended the law more then before, and therefore shall the law be now executed vpon thee.

Then I was carried away againe, and immediatly there was called an assembly of Cittizens, and such as were seene in the law, to counsell, and to take aduice, what punishment they might inflict vpon me: which being deliberated: I was brought forth againe and carried to the place of torment, which was in a Cell or vaulte vnder ground, there being present but foure persons, that is to say, the Inquisitor, the Solicitor or Bucker, who is to see the law executed, a Dutche woman that dwelt in the citie, who was commanded thether to tell them what I spake, because I spake many times in the Dutche tongue, and lastly the tormentor. The Racke now standing ready before them, with seauen Flaxen ropes lying thereon, new bought from the market.

Then the Inquisitor charged me (as at all other times he vsed to do) that I should speake what I had to say, and to speake the truth, otherwise I should be euen now tormented to the death. I seeing my selfe in the hands of such cruell tyrants, as alwayes thirst after the blood of the innocent, euen as Canie who being wroth with his brother Abeil, and carrying an heauie countenance, could no way be eased but with his brothers blood: so I past hope of life, turned my back toward them, and seeing my torments present before me, I fell downe vpon my knees, & besought the Lord to forgive me my sinnes, and to strengthen my faith,

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

and to graunt me patience to indure to the end.

Then they toke me into a boide roome, and stripped me out of my ornaments of sheepe skins, which I repeated before, and put a paire of strong Cannas breeches vpon me to couer my priuities, then bringing me to the racke againe, he commanded me to lie downe (the barres of the Racke vnder me were as sharpe as the backe of a knife) now I willingly yelding my selfe, lay downe, then the tormentor bound my hands ouer my brest crossewise, and my legs clasped by together, were fast tied the one foot to the other knee. Then he fastened to either arme a corde, about the bialme of the arme, and like wise to either thigh an other, which were all made fast againe vnder the racke to the barres, and with an other corde he bound downe my head, and put a hollow Cane into my mouth: then he put foure cudgels into the ropes which were fastened to my armes and thighs.

Now the woman which was present being interpreter, began to perswade me to yelde, and confesse the faith of the Church of Rome. I answered, if it were the will of God that I should end my life vnder their cruell hands, I must be content: but if it please him, he is able to deliuer me, if there were ten thousands against me. Then the tormentor (as he was commanded) began to wrest the ropes, which he did by little and little to augment my paines, and to haue them indure the longer, but in the end he drew them with such violence, as though he would haue plucked my foure quarters in sunder, and there stayed a good space: yet to declare their tyrannicall malice, thinking my torment not sufficient, he added more, pouring water thorow the Cane which was in my mouth by little and little, which I was constrained either to let downe, or to haue my breath stopped, vntill they had turned in such quantitie, as was not tollerable to indure, which pained me extremely: yet not satisfied, they toke and wet a linnen cloath, and laid it ouer my mouth, till I was almost strangled: when my body being thus overcharged with such abundance of water, after they had thus stopped my breath with the wet cloth, suddenly with the force of my breath, and that my stomack was so much overcharged, the water gushed out and bare away the cloath as if it had bene the force of a condit spoute. When the Inquisitor saw that all this would not make me yeld, he commanded the tormentor

The captiuitie of Richard Hatleton.

so to winde the corde on my left arme more strait t, which put me to horrible paines, and immediatly the roape burst in sunder. Then said the Inquisitor, yea is he so strong, I wil make him yeld, and commaunded the tormentor to put too a new roape,



Then the woman againe bad me yeld, saying it were better to yeld then to die: so miserable a death: but I besought Almighty God to ease me of my paines, and to forgive me my sinnes, answering her, that though they had power ouer my body, yet there was no torment should compell me to yelde to their idolatrie, whereby I might bring my soule in danger of hell fire. When the Inquisitor asked her, what I said: she answered that I had said I would neuer submit my selfe to the Church of Rome: then did he most vehemently charge me to yeld and submit my selfe to the Romish Church, otherwise he would pluck off one of my armes:

The captiuitie of Richard Hasketon.

Whereupon I denying still, the tormentor in most cruell manner, wrested the ropes as if he would haue rent my body in sunder: I being now in intolerable paines, and looking for nothing but present death, cryed out in the extremitie of my anguish. Now farewell wife and children, and farewell England, and so not able to utter one word more, lay euen senselesse.

The Inquisitor asked the woman againe what I said, she layd her hand vpon my head, & perceiuing that I was speechlesse, tolde him I was dead: wherefore the Tormentor loosed the ropes, & rebound my hands and fete, and caried me vnto a chamber which they termed S. Walters chamber. Where I comming to my selfe and receiuing some sence and reason, but could haue no feeling of any lim or iointe. Thus I lay in a most lamentable and pittifull manner for fise dayes, hauing a continuall issue of bloude and water forth of my mouth all that space, and being so feble and weake by reason of my torment, that I could take no sustenance: till the first day, a little recovering my strength, they gaue me a little quantity of bread and wine too together, and presently the very same day, they caried me forth into the City, and set me vpon an Asses backe, and whipped me thorow out euery streete of the City of Maiorque, giuing me to the number of fise hundred lashes, which made the blood to runne downe my miserable carcase in such abundance, that it dropped at the belly of the Ass, to the ground. Now there were caried with me about the Citty very many harlots and whores, and other malefactor, which had offended the law, but none punished like me. After this they caried me to the chamber from whence I came, where I lay without all worldly comforte.

Can any man (which vnderstandeth the absurd blindness, and wilfull ignorance, of these Spanishe tyrants, or Romishe monsters) thinke them to be of the true church, which defend their faith with fire, sword, and hellish torment, without all remorse or pittie, as you may perceiue by a manifest trial here set before to the open viewe of the world: for when these hellhoundes haue tormented this miserable creature, as you haue heard with a monstrous and most vnchristian kinde of torment, which he traured for the space of thre howers: till being at the very point of death, and ready to yeeld vpon the ghost, they not yet satisfied with these torments

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleron.

ments which he had suffered already, reserued his life, minding to increase his paines, which they were nothing slacke to performe, so long as he remained in their prison.

Now the second night after that they had whipped me about the city as aforesayd, about midnight I recounting to my selfe in what misery I both did and had remained, I thought to put in practise once againe to get my libertie, crauing of the Lord with heartie prayer to assist me with his mighty hand.

And immediately searching about, I found an olde Iron stub, with the which I made an hole thorow the chamber wall, and crept through into an other chamber, where I felt in the darke many peces of plate, which I little regarded: after I found manie Towels and Table napkins. Then seeking further, I found a long Cane whereon there hung many puddings and Sauceges, I plucked downe the Cane, but had little minde on the victuall. Then I found certaine knives, then I espied some light at a great window in a Barret or loft ouer me: wherefore I tied a crooked kniffe to the Cane, and thrust by a long Towell, and with the kniffe at the end of the Cane I drew the Towell about a barre of the window, and drew it to me, and with that towell I did climbe vp into the windowe, but then I could not get forth betwene the barres, wherefore I digged forth one of the barres, and tyed my towels and napkins together end to end, and fastned one end to a barre of the windowe, and then did slide downe by them till I came within thre or foure fathom of the ground, when the towels brake in sunder, and I fell downe into a Well which was direct vnder me, where I was almost drowned: yet it pleased God to deliuer me. And then being in the city without the castell waller, I knowing no other way to get out, went againe to the towne ditch, where I got thorow the water gate with lesse perill then before, by reason there was lesse water then was the other time. Then went I with all speede into the woods, lying all dayes in woods as close as I could, and traualled by nights thorow woods and mountaines: and vpon the third night about midnight, I happened into an Olive garden, not aboue halfe a bow shote from the sea side, in which garden I found a little skiffe or boate lying vnder a Pomegranate tree, and there lay in the boate a hatchet, all which serued happily for my deliery.

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

Now I being vnable to carrie the boate to the water side, did cut small trunchens of wood, and vpon them did slide it downe to the water side. Then I cut downe an arme of an Olive tree, to make my boate a mast, and having no other shift, made me a saile cloth with my branches and a peece of mantle which I had about me, and for my Dares were very meane, yet durst I stay to looke for no better, but presently set saile and realed my selfe to the good pleasure of almighty God, besoke my selfe to sea, willing rather to abide what the Lord would lay vpon me, then to dye among these most cruell tyrants.

And by the prouidence of God, vpon the second day in the forenone I discryed the coast of Barbarie, for the winde stode northe east, which serued me most happily.

Vnderstand that this cut is from shoare to shoare, one hundred and fifty leagues, which is foure hundred and fifty English miles, and at that time a very rough sea, in somuch if it had not bin by the greate and wonderfull power of God, my vessell and I, had both bin ouerwhelmed.

But I falling with the countrie of Cabiles, commonly called the king of Cookooes lande, nere a towne called Gigeley, where I went on shoare, leauing my boate to swimme which way the winde and weather would conduct it, thinking it had done me sufficient seruice.

But see now, when I had escaped through the surges of the sea from the cruelty of the Spaniard, I was no sooner landed and entered the Mountaines, but being espied by the Moores which inhabit the countrie, who pursued very earnestly to take me, supposing me to be come from the Christian shoare to robbe in their coaste: for many times the Spaniards will passe ouer in some small vessell, and go on shoare: and if they can catch any man of the countrey, they carry them away to make Callic Slaues, wherefore the Moores are very diligent to pursue them at their landing: and if it chaunce they take any Christian they vse him in like sort. Wherefore I being very unwilling to fall into their hands, was constrained to go into a river which runne betweene two Mountaines, and there to stand in water vnto the chinne, where the bushes and trees did growe most thick ouer me: where I stood certaine houres, untill they had left searching for me.

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

Now when I perceiued they were departed, I went out of the water being very feeble, for I eat nothing all that time, but the barke of the trees which I cut with my hatchet. I went forth as secretly as I could, minding to passe to Argire: I had not gone aboue three miles, when I espied a Moore a very well fauoured olde man, who was weeding in a field of wheat, I spake vnto him in the tounge of Franke, and called him to me, I hauing my hatchet in my hand cast it from me,

The Moore
was affaide.



He came vnto me, and taking me by the hand, demaunded very gently what I would haue. I perceiuing that he did euen at the first sight pittie my poore and miserable estate, tolde him all things that had happened vnto me, how I was an English man, how I had bin Captiue in Argire, how I chanced to

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

to come to Genua, their sending me to Maiorque, and all the torment which I had suffered there, and finally, my escape from thence, with all the rest that followed.

The charitable
minde of
a simple olde
man.

This good aged father, when he had heard my lamentable discourse, shewing himselfe rather a Christian, then a man brought vp among the Turkish Mahometists, greatly pittied my misery, and forthwith did leade me home to his house, and caused such victuals as the countrie yeldeth to be set before me, which was dyed Wheate and Hone. and baked a cake vpon the fire hearth, and then fried it with Butter which I thought very good meate, for I had not bene at the like banquet in fife yeares before: the good father shewing me what comfort he could.

The old man
still pittied
him, and did
what lay in
him to deli-
uer him.

Where I remained foure and thirtie howers, in the meane time the Moores which dwelt in the villages by, vnderstanding of my being there, came, and calling me forth, inquired of me what I was, from whence I came, and whether I would, and with great behemencie charged their weapons against my brest, in somuch that I thought they would verily haue slaine me, but mine hostt yat good old man came forth and answered for me, and so diswaded them from doing me any harme, and tooke me backe againe into his house.

This being past, I requested him to helpe me to a guide to conduct me to Argire, and he presently prouided two, where of the one was his sonne, to whom I promised to giue foure crownes for their paines. So taking my leaue of my good hostt, we tooke our way toward Argire: when we had not passed aboue xxiij. miles on the way, we chanced to meete a Gentleman of that countrie, who was as it were Purueior to the king, and went about the countrie to take vp cozne and graine for the kings prouision: he meeting vs vpon the way, asked whet:er we were trauailing: my guides answered, that we were going to Argire, he asked what we had to do there: they sayde to deliuer me there. When he demanded what I was: they tolde him I was an Englishman that came from the Christian shoare, and was bound towards Argire.

Then

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

Then did this Gentleman take me from them, sending them backe from whence they came, but compelled me to goe with him to a village by, and very earnestly perswaded me to turne Moore, promising if I would, he would be a meane to preferre me greatly, which I still denyed. Then vpon the next day, he caried me further to a towne called Tamgote, and deliuered me to a nebleman of great authozitie wity the king, which was as Liefetenant generall for the warres (for this King of Cookeoe houldeth continuall warre with the King of Argine, although they be both subiect to the great Turke.)



I was no sooner brought before this Nobleman, but he

D V

deniauge.

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

demande whether I would turne Moore, I answered that I would not: wherefore immediately he commanded a paire of shackels to be put on my heeles, and a claspe of Iron about my neck, with a chaine thereat.

Then was I set vpon a Pule, and conueyed to Cookooe, where the King lay: when I was come thether I was presently brought before the king: who inquired what I was, and from whence I came & what my pretence was. I answered that I was an Englishman, and that I came from the Christian shoure, intending to passe to Argire. Then he asked me what I could do, I tolde him I could do nothing. Then he demanded whether I were a Gunner, I said no: then he perswaded me very instantly to yeelde to their religion, offering to preferre me: wherefore, I desired him to giue me libertie to depart, for my desire is to be in England with my wife and children. Yea, said he, but how wilt thou come there, for they minded to keepe me still: and euermore the king assayed to seduce me with promises of great preferment, saying: if I would serue him and turne Moore, I should want nothing. But on the contrary, I besought him to giue me libertie to go to Argire, where I was in hope to

Gunnars are
in great estimation
with
them.



The captiuitie of Richard Hasleron.

he deliuered, and sent home to mine owne countrie.

Now he seeing he could winne me by no gentle meanes, commaunded me to prison, saying, that he would either make me to yelde and turne Moore, or else I should die in captiuitie.

In this while that I remained in prison, diuerse of the kings house came to me, perswading me to yelde to the kings demand, alledging how hardly the king might vse me, being now in his power, vnable any way to escape, and againe how bountifullly the king would deale with me, if I would submit my selfe.

Within a little time after, it happened there was great preparation for to receiue the King of Abbessé, whose countrey adioineth to the king of Cookooes land, and are in league together, and ioyne their armies in one against the king of Argire. Now at his coming, I was fetcht forth of prison, and commaunded to charge certaine peeces of Ordnance, which were three Sacres and two Pinions of brasse, which I refused not to doe, trusting thereby to get some libertie, wherefore at the coming of this king of Abbessé into the towne, I discharged the Ordnance as liked them very well, for they are not very expert in that exercise, for which I had some more libertie then before.

These men
are nothing
expert in
Artillerie.

This King of Abbessé carrying some certaine time there in consulting with the king of Cookooe, for matters touching the warres with Argire, and vnderstanding of me, sent for me, being very desirous to talke with me, where after certaine questions, he desired of the other king that he might buie me, which he would not graunt. Then the King of Cabiles or Cookooe perswaded me very serionllie to serue him willie, and to turne Moore, and offered to giue me by hundred Doubles by the yeare, which amounteth to the summe of fiftie pounds of English money, and moreouer to giue me by the day thirtie Aspers (which is worth twelue pence English) to finde me meate, and likewise to giue me a house and lande sufficient to solue an hundred bushels of graine yearely, and two Plowes of Dren, furnished to till the same: also to furnish me with horse, Musket, Sworde, and other necessaries, such

Very many
offers of pre-
ferment to
drawe me
from the
word of God.

as

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

as they of that country vse. And lastly he offered to giue me a wife freely, which they esteemed the greatest matter, for al buy their wives at a great price, yea if there were any in his court could content me I should make my choise, but if there were not, he would prouide one to my contentment, whatsoeuer it should cost him. But whē he perceiued all he said was in vaine, he sent the Quēne and her gentle women to talke with me.



When she came, she very courteously intreated me to turne and serue the King, and to consider well what a large offer the King had made, saying, that I was much vnlike to come to any like preferment in my country: and many times she would shew me her Gentlewomen, and aske me if none of them could please me, but I tolde her I had a wife in mine
eye

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

stone countrie to whome I had bowed my faith before God and the world, which bow I said I would neuer breake while we both liued. Then she said she coul'd but maruaile what she should be whome I esteemed so much, as to refuse such offers of preferment for her sake, being now where I must remaine in captiuitie & slavery, all the daies of my life, but whē she could preuaile no way with me, when she had uttered these foresaid speeches, & many other which were frivolous to rehearse, she left me, yet by her meanes I had more libertie then before.

After this I was set to sawe Boordes and Plankes, and was commaunded to make a carriage for a peece of Ordnance: Thus they compelled me to labour daily, which I did the more willingly, because I hoped still to get my libertie thereby in the end. Then they willed me to shew the fashion of our edge toles after the English, which when they saw the fashion, their Smithes wrought them very artificially, & gaue them very good temper: so these things I was had in more estimation, insomuch that they tooke off my Irons, and let me walke abroad with a keeper. Then was I commaunded by the king, to teach the Carpenters to frame a house after the manner of English building, and for that purpose were sent forth Carpenters and workemen with me to the woods to fall timber, all which were to do what I appointed vpon the kings commandement. Now I being chiefe Maister of the worke, appointed out the trees which were very speciall good timber: in small time we had finished our frame, which liked the King very well. By this means I had more liberty then before, and was very well intreated, yet I was greatly grieved in minde, that I could not procure any meanes for my liberty, although at that time I wanted few necessities: yet was I daily deuising how I might escape away, for three speciall causes: one was, for the speciall care I had of my saluation, because (as you haue heard) there were many temptations laide before me, to draue me from a Christian to be an abhominable idolatour. The second cause was, for the loue & dutifull allegiance which I owe to my Prince & naturall countrie. The third is, the regard of the bow which I had bowed in matrimonie, & the care of my poore wife & children: which causes moued me so much, that

I was made
maister of
worke wher
I had but
small skill.

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

that whereas by reason of my diligence in these foresaid matters, I walking abroad with my keeper, who not suspecting me, was not so attentiu as before he had bene. So soon as our frame was finished, I took opportunity, and getting them a paire of heeles, took my way over the Mountaines, intending to go for Argire. But presently, there was great store of men, both on horseback and on foot, who being more perfect in the way then I was, quickly ouertooke me, & caried me back againe to Cookooc. I was presently brought before the King, who asked me why I ran away: I told him to haue libertie. Then he called certaine of his seruants to him, and commanded them to lay me downe at his fete, which foure of them did, and laying me flat vpon the belly, one of them gaue me 75 stripes with a great cudgell, till I was not able to remoue out of the place. Then the King commanded to carie me to prison againe, whether two of them caried me, and put me in Irons and there left me, where I remained for the space of two moneths: then was I brought forth of prison, & sent daily to a fountaine or well, about halfe a league from the towne to fetch water with a couple of Ases, for the vse of the Kings house:

I was now
made a water
bearer.



The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

Only in this time many artificers, as Smithes, Joyners, and carpenters, and many other, came to me to vnderstand the fashion of many English toles, as Plane yrons, Goudges, Chissels, and such like, for which they shewed me some fauour, and gaue me some money: and when I had gotten a little money, I bestowed it vpon apparrell, and caused it to be made like to theirs, which I caried secretly, when I went to fetch water, and did hide it in a drie cane vnder the side of a rocke: I bought me like wise a sword and a launce, such as they vse to transaile with, I also prouided a file, all which I laide by with my apparrell.



It happened that the King of Abbesse, came againe to visit the King, and to take counsaile about warlike affaires, as vsually

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

ally they did, wherefore when they heard of his coming, making great preparation for him, it fell out so that there wanted water, in the offices: where in an evening there was exceeding thunder, and raine, and lightning so that there was no man would goe for water, but euery one calling for the Englishman: then I, which durst say no nay, took the vessels, and hanging them vpon the Asles, and so went thow to raine, and winde, and thunder, and all, till I came to the well, where I left my Asles, to wander whither they would, and went to my apparrell, and with my file cut off my prions, and made me ready, in my sute of Doyes clothing, and with my sword by my side, and my Lauce on my shoulder, took my way once againe towards Argire.

And that night I went about twentie miles ouer Rockes, and mountaines, keeping my selfe out of beaten waies, casting my way by the moone and starres. When the day began to be light I lay me downe in a brake of thicke bushes, and there I slept the most parte of the day, and in the euening I began to trauell forth on my way.

As so on the thid night I was to passe a bridge where was continuall watch, and warde, both day and night, where I must of necessitie passe, by reason the riuer ran betwixt two mountaines which were so steepe that no man can neither goe downe to enter water, nor yet being in, can by any possible meanes get vp on the other side, which riuer is a great defence to the Countrey.

Where I vnder delay but entered the Bridge in the beginning of the night, about nine of the clocke, being in great doubt of the watch, but at the first end of the Bridge I sawe no man, vntill I was happily passed ouer, then there came one after me and asked who goes there, it being somewhat darke and I in apparrell and with my weapons like a Squire, of their countrey, answered boldly that I was a freind and tolde him I was coming to the Gouernour to deliuer letters from the King, for neere the riuers side there is a Village, where dwelleth hee who hath charge of the keeping of this passage.

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

Whereby I went onward toward the Village, but before I was farre passed: I heard horsemen vpon the Bridge, which asked whether any man had passed that night, the watchmen told them there was one gone euē now, which said he went to deliuer the Kings letters to the Officer.



But I thought no time now to heare any more of their talke but betooke me to my heeles, and so came as I was without the Towne I went but of the Portē way, into woodes, and kept desert wayes that night and day following. And the next night I came within the liberties of the King of Ar-gire, where I knew the Cabiles, could not fetch me backe againe.

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleron.

Many dangerous wilde beasts in that cuntry.

In this order I escaped their hands, by the mightie power of God: for vnderstand, that in these desert Mountaines there are all manner of wilde beasts in great number, as Lions, Beares, Wolves of marvellous bignesse, Apes, wilde Swine, and also wilde Horses and Ases, with many other hurtfull beasts, yet was I neuer in danger of any of these.



In this countrie of Cabyles, there is diuerse kindes of verie pure mettall'es, as Golde, Silver, and Lead, and good Iron and Steele, but they for want of knowledge and skill, make no vse of any mettall, except Iron and Steele: although at such times as I haue bene present whiles the Smithes haue tryed their Iron, I haue sene among the drosse of the Iron very perfect golde, which they perceiving me to beholde, were very inquisitiue to vnderstand whether it were golde, or any other

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

her mettall of substance : but I tolde them it was but a
vnde o' dyasse, whered' me made coulours for painting in
ngland.

They caried me out to the Mountaines, and shewed me
the rockes where they gathered their Pyrr, which rockes had
lines of very pure golde Dore, which I would not reueile
them, but answered as before: because I doubted if the king
knew me to haue experience in such mysteries, he would
pe me the more straight, whereby I might haue remained
bondage during my life.

Now when I was within the countrie of Argire, I was
at danger from the pursuers, and then did I walke by
py, and kept the common wayes: where coming within
the view of Argire, vpon the way I met a Worke, who knew
me at the first sight, since I was prisoner in Argire, and de-
manded if I had not bene captiue with such a man: I sayd
yes: he then inquired whether I wente to the citie: I saide
yes, then returned he backe, and did accompanie me to the
citie.

When I came there, I would haue gone to the English house,
but he led me violently to my olde Maister, where I rested me
day and a night, my maister not being very earnest, for be-
cause in this time that I was absent all the English captiues
were redeemed and sent home. Wherefore I went to the
English counsell, hoping to be presently deliuered, who gaue
me very good words, but did not shew me that fauour which he
professed.

I could make some discourse of his unkinde dealing with
me and other of our countrey men which I will leaue till moe
occasion: for vnderstand that whiles I was with him,
there came a messenger from my olde maister, with whome
I was before I went to Genua, who would haue caried me
away by force, but I would not goe, requesting the counsell
to take order for my deliuerie: but he perswaded me to goe
with him, saying, that he would in time prouide for my li-
bertie.

But by meanes I would not perloe to go to my Maister,
yet the counsell would not take order for me. I was tak'n

The captiuitie of Richard Hasleron.

by the kings officers, and put in chaines in the Kings prison among other captiues: and at the next setting out of the Gallies I was put to my olde occupation, where I remained Galley slaue for thre years and aboue after.



In which time I was eight voyages at sea, and at the same time as the Gallies lay in harbour, I was imprisoned with the rest of the captiues, where our ordinarie food was bread and water, and at some few times, as once or twice in the weeke a small quantitie of sodden wheat.

To conclude, I passed my time in sickness and extreme slavery, vntill by the helpe of an honest Marchant of this citie of London, and hauing a very fitt opportunitie by means of certayne our English ships were ready to set saile homeward, vpon Christmas euen being the 23 of December 1592. I came aboard the Cherubin of London: weighing anchor, and hauing a happy gale, arrived in England toward the end of Februarie following.

Thus haue you heard how it hath pleased the Almighty God (after many and great miseries) to bring me to the port which I longed greatly to see: beseeching God of his mercie to prolong the dayes of our most gracious and renowned

Quene, whose fauour reacheth faire, and whose most

happy government is in admiration with

foraine Princes So wishing all

to the glory of God, and furtherance of the Gospell,

I end.

FINIS.